

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 14, 2006. Claims 6 to 10, 16 to 20, 26 to 30 and 32 are pending in the application, of which Claims 6, 16, 26 and 32 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 6 to 10, 16 to 20, 26 to 30 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,495,561 (Holt). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 6 is directed to an information processing apparatus for having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using a plurality of pages of drawing data input from an application. The apparatus includes entry means for entering a designation of N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ($N > 1$, N is an integer) is printed on one print sheet; physical N-page printing arranging means for dividing a physical page into N areas and for arranging the drawing data of each page at a center of each of equal N-divided areas of the physical page, wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet; printable area N-page printing arranging means for dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and for arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N-divided printable areas of the printable area on the physical page, wherein the print results of N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet; determining means for determining which one of the physical N-page printing arranging means and the printable region N-page

printing arranging means is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of output sheet information, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N-page printing entered by the entry means; and generation means for generating the print data by executing the determined one of the physical N-page printing arranging means and the printable region N-page printing arranging means.

In contrast, Holt discloses an object-oriented printing interface, (column 3, line 60 of Holt). While Holt discloses an n-up pagination model, (column 18, line 3 of Holt), Holt is silent on having both physical N-page printing arranging and printable area N-page printing arranging. Moreover, Holt is silent on physical N-page printing arranging wherein, if a physical sheet of a physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut and printable area N-page printing arranging wherein the print result of N pages are arranged toward the center of a physical sheet. Thus, Holt does not disclose or suggest all of the features of amended independent Claim 6.

In light of the deficiencies of Holt as discussed above, Applicants submit that amended independent Claim 6 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

Amended independent Claims 16, 26, and 32 are directed to a method, program, and computer-readable storage medium product substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 6. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claims 16, 26, and 32 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the

same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

REQUEST FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Applicants request that the Examiner conduct a personal or telephonic interview with Applicants' representative regarding this case. If such an interview has not been conducted before the Examiner takes this Amendment into consideration, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' representative as indicated below.

CONCLUSION

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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